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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4537
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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAA/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
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INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 5224
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 7551
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 2720
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 5741
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 9030
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RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6135
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SIPDIS

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USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - UNREST IN XINJIANG AND IRAN

11. LEAD STORIES: Most Tuesday papers gave top play to Prime Minister Aso's official announcement on Monday of his intention to dissolve the Lower House next week and hold a general election on August 30.

12. "Split among Uighurs" The moderate Yomiuri reported from Urumqi (7/14): "In order to calm unrest in Urumqi in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, China's communist government is promoting ethnic reconciliation by using 'successful Uighurs,' who accept control by the Communist Party and hope to coexist with the Han Chinese majority. This is a standard tactic that China uses to control ethnic minorities. However, no clues are in sight for solving the inextricably intertwined ethnic confrontation because the impoverished ordinary Uighurs are also rebelling against the Uighurs who follow the Han Chinese."

13. "Deepening Distrust Causes Split in Iranian Government" The business-oriented Nikkei wrote (7/14): "A month has passed since the Iranian presidential election, which developed into the greatest turmoil since the Iranian Revolution. Protests by the reformist group have been put down by force. However, the reelection of hard-line conservative President Ahmadinejad created deep distrust of the government and revealed discord in the revolutionary regime. The international environment surrounding Iran has become even more severe. The crisis in Iran is shifting from violence on the street to a stage in which an invisible split is jeopardizing the foundation of the Islamic revolutionary regime."

ZUMWALT